N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

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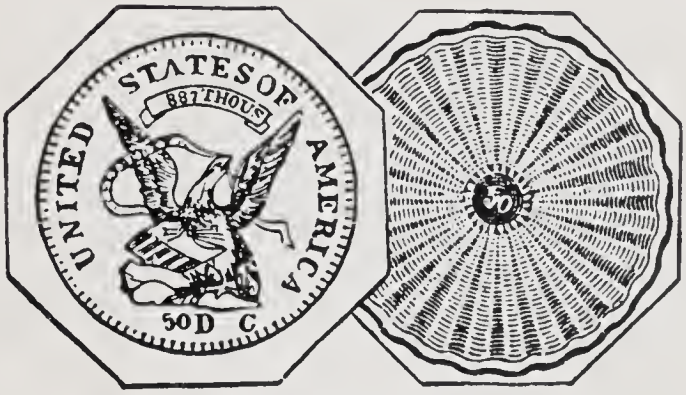

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'Coins Are the Pearls on the Threads of History'

N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

OF THE

NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Eric G. Warner
Editor

George Bennett, Wm. H. Spence
John Stoppelworth - Asst. Eds.

VOL. 1 JULY 1959 NO. 1

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by

C.A. (Slim) Dunbar, Pres., N.A.S.C.

GREETINGS - I hope you enjoy No. 1, Volume 1.

A few years ago a group of Numismatists gathered in the den of a mutual collector. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the creation of an organization in our own community that could function as an association of individuals and groups of Numismatists. And, importantly, as an organization of sufficient magnitude to sponsor its own conventions. It was in this nucleus that the Numismatic Association of Southern California was launched and the first convention planned.

This initial convention effort was such a suc-
ss that it was decided to make it an annual affair.
e continued success of a community convention each
ar seemed very certain in view of the upsurge in
w ANA registrations, and the forming of many new
ubs throughout the Southland. Each of the succeed-
g conventions has proved to be greater than pre-
ding ones, until now the yearly NASC conventions
ve acquired national prominence.

In the line of progress, we now take another step,
e publication of our own magazine as an outlet for
ub news, and as means for setting forth our plans
future numismatic activities within our own com-
nity. The organization is happily endowed with
lling workers who are qualified to assist with
ganizing new clubs, provide authoritive speakers,
d so on.

The upcoming event in Southern California numis-
tics is the California State convention to be held
Pasadena. There will be dealer's bourse, dis-
ays, auctions, and many other attractions. This
e is a must on my calendar, and it should be on
urs too.

The national convention (ANA) this year will be
Portland, August 26 to 29. The election of offi-
rs of ANA is scheduled for this convention. We
ve two capable men from the West who have been
minated for office. Herbert M. Bergen of Fuller-
n for second vice-president and Robert G. McArthur
r the ANA Board. Both are active and sincere
mismatists. They are the kind of men we need in
r national organization.

But not least is our own NASC convention, Feb-
ary 18-20, 1960 at Hotel Statler in Los Angeles.
ans are progressing smoothly. See you next issue.

Numismatically yours,
'Slim'

THE STORY OF N.A.S.C.

by Eric Warner

CHAPTER I

One explicit duty devolves upon me as editor of the NASC Quarterly, and that duty is to familiarize myself thoroughly with the history, or as we might say, the background of the organization. Normally this is a perservering and time consuming task. But not so this time. Instead of having to implore others to give me the 'dope', and/or grub through masses and messes of unkempt files or musty heaps of recorded trivia, I was handed by Thelma Case a large scrapbook sized portfolio in which the doings of the organization, from the founding day, were neatly and professionally compiled. Much care, thought and work is exemplified in the preparation of this archival tid-bit.

In many years of journalistic and publishing experience, I have not encountered better historical recording. To those whose hands have done so well, and of whom this organization can well be proud, thank you for making my toil less toilsome. Their past work, so valuable to me, will be much more so to you, because the historical data that I shall pe here and in forthcoming chapters, will be devoid of any misgivings or conjectures.

On the cover of our history record book in gold lettering is the imprint 'N.A.S.C.--Founded 1954'. Each page is beautifully hand embellished with the title of the subject matter, almost like ancient illuminated lettering. Page One begins at the beginning, 'Minutes of the First Meeting'. It is dated July 31, 1955, Hayward Hotel, Los Angeles, an it is signed by the organization's first secretary, Harold F. Donald.

As the pages of the history record book are
rned, many names uppermost in Southern California
mismatics will unavoidably stand out. Many of
ose named are of national stature, and we in South-
n California can bask proudly in the reflected
ght of their prodigious careers of furthering the
bby of numismatics.

In this exhumation of the record, as to what has
anspired previously to make the NASC what it is
day, I want to stick strictly to the facts. For
at reason, I shall quote constantly from the re-
rd, and let it speak for itself.

Says the minutes of the very first meeting:
he meeting was called to order by Karl M. Brainard
r the purpose of forming a numismatic organiza-
on; to establish its name; and to elect officers.
rl Brainard put forth the purposes of the organi-
tion, namely--to further numismatics in Southern
lifornia, and to have an annual convention in the
s Angeles area. The name of the organization was
ened for discussion. After some debate, with
rious names submitted, I. Newton Sanders suggested
umismatic Association of Southern California',
ich name was adopted unanimously.'

FLASH! FLASH!

Gratifying is the news that William H. Smith of
n Francisco will be the auctioneer at our annual
nvention at the Statler Hotel in February. Mr.
th who has been a devotee of numismatics for many
rs comes highly qualified for event at which he
l officiate. He operates the Eureka Coin Shop in
Bay city. It behooves those of us who will have
ns for the auction to provide him the very best
erial we can. If you are of a mind to contact Mr.
th any time between now and our annual affair next
ruary, do so by writing to him at P.O. Box 4245,
Francisco 1, Calif.

PERSONALITIES

IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATICS

KARL M. BRAINARD

Of the many who have contributed much to Southern California Numismatics, we award our first accolade to the one who founded the Numismatic Association of Southern California, Karl M. Brainard.

His parents brought him to California from Greenfield, Mass., in 1894, and in 1923 he was married to Grace MacLean. It was around 1930 when Mrs. Brainard became interested in coin collecting, but for the following fourteen years, Karl remained aloof. It was not until 1944 that his interest in numismatics unfolded. But in between time he had an interesting career.

At Long Beach he was a life guard for a year, ba there in the 'teen years. That was not his forte. For later he sang with the Percy Mason Light Opera Company, and from there went into motion pictures. He worked with 'Fatty' Arbuckle in the latter's fir picture. During the early 20's Karl was with the original William Fox Picture Co., and as he says, ' nearly starved to death as an actor, so went to wor as a stage carpenter.' In later years he built and operated the first large Camera Crane for Twentieth Century Fox, and has worked with such top stars as Jean Harlow, Wallace Berry, Alice Faye, Betty Grabl

egory Peck, and others of top rank. When he re-
red from the picture business, he was head of the
t building department which, during his time, con-
ructed the sets for such extravaganzas as *The King*
d I and *The Rains Came*.

It was by now fifty years later since he came to
lifornia as a baby. He began making plastic coin
lders more or less to keep out of mischief, and to
pease his friend, W.R. Fanning, and some others who
d come to him for the holders.

'Next thing I knew it had developed into a busi-
ss,' says Karl, 'and then by accident I got into
e wholesale end.' Now after two years he has sold
s entire business, the supplies to R. DeMers, and
e plastics end to some one else. But he is not
itting numismatics. Karl is going back into his
rst 'love', Coins, proofs in particular.

'In 1954 I felt that Southern California was be-
g overlooked by the large numismatic organizations.
had at that time more members in the A.N.A. than
y other section of the country. So the answer to
is situation was to organize our own association.
ter a great deal of consideration, I called a
eting of well known collectors and dealers, and out
this meeting evolved the Numismatic Association of
uthern California. To say it has been a successful
ganization, is a mild statement. We are known the
rld around. My desire has been fulfilled. We have
great association.'

Says Al Risi: Of interest and encouragement to
in collectors is the news that rare and good coins
n still be picked up out of circulation. Johnny
rrish, president of North American Aviation Stamp
d Coin Club found a 1916-D dime in his wife's sugar
wl. She usually puts her loose change in the bowl,
d when her husband went through it, there it lay.
was one he badly needed for his own collection,
from Johnny comes the advice: 'Don't give up,
re are still some good ones around.'

A FEW FACTS ABOUT GOLD

by Karl M. Brainard

The Double Eagles of 1933 were not lawful money. Early in 1944 the United States Treasury Department, through their Secret Service Agents, started an action to reclaim for the Government all Double Eagles of 1933, claiming that the coins had been stolen from the Philadelphia Mint.

Without going into lengthy detail, the matter was brought up in the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. The case was tried during the June, 1947 term. The Treasury Department presented its evidence. No evidence was presented by the defendant (L. G. Barnard, who was in no way connected with the theft but was an innocent purchaser). The decision was of course favorable to the United States of America.

The actual opinion abbreviated follows:
This action was in the nature of a replevin to recover a 1933 Double Eagle. The coin in question was purchased in the year 1944 for nine hundred dollars by the defendant. The Government contended that the coin had never been lawfully issued as money or currency, that it was a chattel at the time it left the Mint and thereafter, and the defendant, though a bonified collector, acquired no title from the United States Government, the rightful owner, in the purchase of this coin. The defendant denied that the plaintiff was entitled to have the coin returned to him. He claimed that as a collector of rare and unusual coins and in good faith, he purchased this coin from another collector without knowledge that it had been stolen or taken from the Mint.

The proof is that the United States Government minted 445,500 Double Eagles at its Philadelphia Mint

ring the period between March 15, 1933 and May 19, 33; that such coins could only be issued and circuted legally by the Philadelphia Mint upon receipt said Mint of an order from the Treasurer of the ited States. The Mint did not, at any time, reive such an order except one to deliver two of ese coins to the Smithsonian Institute. In addion, twenty-nine others were destroyed by testing d by the Assay Commission. The remaining Double gles were carefully weighed before and after being melted.

So it becomes an abvious fact that the Double gles of 1933 were not lawful money.

The last one to be recovered was in the collecon of King Farouk. It is my understanding that e State Department reclaimed this during the rouk sale wherein the Egyptian Government recovered tremendous sum of money.*

MORE ABOUT GOLD NEXT ISSUE.

QUESTION & ANSWER DEPARTMENT

Edited by

George Bennett, Assistant Editor

Q. What is the alloy of the 'Silver 5¢'s?

A. Copper, 56; Silver, 35; Manganese, 9. The regular 5¢'s are: copper, 75; nickel, 25.

Q. What is the composition of the so-called Iron Cents?

A. Zinc-steel cents were coined by the order of the Secretary of Treasury, on December 23, 1942 and May 15, 1943, for the calendar year 1943. The cents are of two weights: 41.5 and 42.5 grains. Struck in steel, with zinc coating not over 0.00[illegible] inch.

Q. Have U.S. Gold coins always been of the same fineness?

A. $50.00 and $20.00 are 900 Fine.
Eagles of 1792 are 916-2/3 Fine.
Eagles of 1834 are 899.225 Fine.
1/2 Eagles of 1792 are 916-2/3 Fine.
1/2 Eagles of 1834 are 899.225 Fine.
1/4 Eagles of 1792 are 916-2/3 Fine.
All others, including commemoratives, are 900 Fine.

Q. What is the earliest Canadian Dollar?

A. 1935, commemorating the 25 years of the Reign of George V.

Send in your questions and address them to the editor of this department.

NEWS OF MEMBER CLUBS

ST VALLEY COIN CLUB -- 'Numismatic History of
xico' was the subject of a speech delivered by Dr.
F. Pradeau recently at a meeting of the West Valley
in Club. In June, Thelma Case and Karl M. Brainard
-lectured on an interesting subject, 'Unusual Media
Exchange,' which was highlighted by a display of
ese unusual coins. This club is to be commended
r its monthly publication of which Harold F. Donald
editor. The May issue was solid with real numis-
tic information.

BERNARDINO COIN CLUB -- This club sponsored the
in exhibits at the 44th Orange Fair in San Bernar-
no between April 23 and May 3. There were 56 cases
exhibited coins and during the eleven day session
out 25,000 people viewed the displays. Some of the
SC members who won prizes for their display were
R. Fanning, Dr. C.L. Emmons, John C. Yribarne;
gene Cooper of San Diego won the prize of 'Best in
Show.' John C. Yribarne was exhibit chairman.

RTH AMERICAN AVIATION STAMP & COIN CLUB -- plans to
p growing by exploiting ideas which stimulate in-
rest and increase participation in numismatics.
such idea is to devote the 'swapping and shopping'
ir before each meeting to a particular segment of
ismatics. For example: 'Penny & Nickel Night';
ins of the 1940's'; 'Proof and Mint Sets'; 'Old
d'; etc.

NGE COUNTY COIN CLUB -- boasts a membership of
. High attendance was 215 at a recent meeting.
highlight of the April meeting was a talk deli-
ed by Dan Harley, vice-president of the club. His
ject was the Mother Lode gold country which he had
ently visited. With the aid of a large map, he
raced his steps through the ruins of the Moffett
t which operated between 1850 and 1853 and where
now very expensive $50 gold slugs were produced.

The May meeting was addressed by John Yribarne on the small cents and the Indian Head cents. His talk was augmented by his display of these coins, including the rare 1856 on through to 1909's.

GARDEN GROVE COIN CLUB -- at the April meeting presented Clyde Dunn, president of the club in 1958, with a plaque in appreciation of his untiring efforts in behalf of the club. The May meeting had a change of tempo. At this gathering various members told how they got started in the hobby, what they had in the way of collections, and what their pet coins were. Refreshments, and a raffle of four or five coins is followed by the auction which is conducted by Joe Steel.

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB -- Charles M. Johnson, past president of the club, spoke at the regular June meeting on 'What About Uncle Sam's Thirty Billion Paper Dollars?'. He discussed some features of the six classes, eleven denominations and 752 varieties of this money; tracing it back to July 1929. The club made an award to Louis E. Zumwalt for his 'Best in Show' exhibit at the Long Beach Hobby Show. Awards also went to Henry Cutting, Abel Sampson and Ida Mae Griffin for their prize winning exhibits. The show, which is annual, attracted 42 hobby clubs and 50 exhibitors. Some 54,000 visited the show.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COIN CLUB -- The theme for the July meeting will be 'Other Hobbies'. The intent is to provide an additional outlet for the members who have other collections, such as stamps, buttons, glassware, etc. The response to the auction of gold proof sets, and uncirculated coins was so gratifying that another meeting will be devoted to this type of program.

DESERT PROSPECTORS COIN CLUB -- The June meeting was addressed by Jessie Davis of San Bernardino. Not only a collector but a treasure hunter, Mr. Davis told of discovering several buried treasures in Tex

displayed copper and paper maps, and American
ins dating back to 1700's. The club located at
torville, meets the first Monday of the month at
vin School.

TEREY PARK COIN CLUB -- was organized in 1955 by
Z. White Wyatt, and now has 119 members. Meets
ond Monday of the month at 440 South McPherrin.
ert L. Northwood is president. Auctioneer is John
necke.

NDALE COIN CLUB -- meets first Wednesday of the
th at YMCA, Wilson and Louise Streets. Recently
talled officers are Vreeland H. Fraser, President;
rge Bennett, Auctioneer extraordinary, Vice-Presi-
t; Reginald Wilkinson, Secretary; Mrs. E.M. Brown,
asurer; A.C. Barlow, John E. Huling, Dr. J.E.
ille, H. Runner, and Earl G. Whitehead, Members of
Board.

VER CITY COIN CLUB -- meets second Thursday of the
th at the Culver City Women's Club, 3835 Watseka,
8:00 o'clock. Door prizes include a gold piece
other numismatic items, refreshments, auction,
aker, and a question and answer panel.

THERN HUB COIN CLUB -- was host to the West Valley
n Club on July 12 at 4441 Lennox Blvd., Inglewood.
get-to-gether featured special entertainment and
issuance of trophy awards for exhibits. The
tion was of top quality, gold, proofs, and uncir-
ated coins. There also was top grade door prizes
refreshments.

'TWO KINDS OF COLLECTORS'

It often has been said, 'There are two kinds of collectors.' In this instance the saying is employed in a different sense. The two kinds referred to in this epistle are the ones who know what they are doing and why, the others just collect, or perhaps more correctly just accumulate. The depth and breadth of enjoyment in collecting coins can well be determined by how much you know. There are only two ways of acquiring this knowledge. By reading and by attending club meetings. For in these two instances every aspect of numismatics is revealed. Join a local club by all means, and subscribe to as many publications as time will allow you to read. You will receive the *N.A.S.C. Quarterly* with your membership in the Numismatic Association of Southern California, and this publication will endeavor to give as much information about your hobby as it can. Contact any of the officers or members for an application, or call the editor for any further information.

'HEAR YE . . .
. . . HEAR YE'

The dues for 1959 are now past due, and those members who have not yet paid should promptly contact Carolyn Olson, our corresponding secretary, 6106 Southside Drive, Los Angeles 22, phone RA 3-8079.

On June 21 a new coin club came into being. Launched was the LAWNDALE COIN CLUB which started with 23 charter members. Carl Grall was elected president. Incidentally, this is another Sunday cl It will meet on the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 o'clock at Optimists Hall.